

# • C o u n t e r p o i s e •

## The Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Volume XLVIII

September 2008

Number 10



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon meets every 2nd Thursday at 7:00 pm at the First Lutheran Church of El Cajon. The address is 867 South Lincoln Ave. Next meeting: October 9, 2008 7:00 pm

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All Official written communication is to be submitted to:

A.R.C.E.C. P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

The Counterpoise is a publication of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). It is published once monthly and contributions are accepted from officers and members of the club. We also encourage input from members of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon. Opinions expressed are solely that of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon (ARCEC). Articles may be submitted either by e-mail or mail to the editor.

Paul Rios at:

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net or by post  
1237 Victor Ave #4, El Cajon, CA 92021

The Deadline is Sunday after the General Meeting.

Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

Web Site: <http://www.wa6bgs.org>

Counterpoise E-Mail address

WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net



### Election of Nominations Committee Program:

"Being DX-Tales of a Contest Expeditioner"

By: Marty Woll N6VI

## 2008 Officers

President	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Vice-President	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Secretary	N6ERD	Dan Severance	449-8526
Treasurer	KG6JCW	Mike "Stogie" Panger	263-4439

## 2008 Board of Directors

Affiliated Clubs	AE6AV	Larry Plummer	460-1818
Instructor	AE6QW	Gordon Shackelford	561-6323
Membership	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Net Manager	KG6TDP	Mike Oberbauer	444-9090
Public Service	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
	KF6KE	Richard West	462-2771

## 2008 Standing Committees

Bylaws	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Club Attire	K6PKS	Paul Schmidt	733-2284
Counterpoise Editor	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Education	N6OPH	Mike Maston	296-9067
Elmer	WA6L	John Graf	368-7413
EOC H2O District	N6NKJ	Rich Beisigl	444-5465
Estate Sales	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Field Day	KO4QT	Steve Weed	733-2320
Health & Welfare	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Historian	KI6QDB	Paul Weekley	
Photographer	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Post Mistress	KC6TBG	Ann Rios	593-9445
Prizes	AF6BC	Floyd Lang	697-8655
Public Relations	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
SANDARC Delegate	K5WFW	Len Fulbright	258-1322
Swap Meet	N6JOJ	Tom Myrick	449-3547
Technical	W2IRI	Bob Boehme	448-4728
Ticket Lady	KI6EEK	Lisie Rios	
WA6BGS Trustee	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
WAMO	AE6CQ	Michael Martak	562-6477
Web Master	KC6QLS	Paul Rios	593-9445
Welcome	KI6EEL	Bridget Rios	
Social Chair	KI6JUD	Linda Weed	971-1535

## Staff and Writers

KC6QLS	Paul	Editor
KO4QT	Steve	Vice President
N6ERD	Dan	Meeting Minutes
KI6FIH	Tassy	HAM Spot Light
AE6CQ	Michael	WAMO
W5COM	Tom & Lisie	Jokes
N6NKJ	Rich	Amateur Radio at Large
WA6L	John	Down Below in EC
WA6MHZ	Pat	Crest Radio Museum
KI6EEL	Bridget	Photos

### SANTEE DRIVE-IN SWAP MEET

10990 Woodside Ave., North  
FOR INFORMATION, CALL 449-SWAP  
Ham Radio, Computers, Electronics  
ACRES & ACRES OF BARGAINS  
1st & 3rd Saturday of the Month  
GATES OPEN 6:30 AM

## From The President

**Paul KC6QLS**



Home Brew is coming in November. Thanks to John, WA6L with his Kit Building program. I hope some of you will enter the contest. The rules are posted on the site and in this Counterpoise.

I can't believe it's October already. Let's reflect on what the ARCEC has accomplished in the past ten months. CAL Fire now has the radios installed and has VIP Red Flag Patrol under its belt and ready for the next one. There were Media Hits from all the local TV channels about VIP Red Flag Patrol; did you see all the green shirts? We also have six members working with Roxanne at CAL Fire and EOC under her direction.

Field Day 2008 started off in the shadow of the break-in and the loss of a lot of gear. The local Amateur Radio Community pulled together and helped us out in our time of need. Again, I say Thanks to everyone that donated gear, generator, antennas, gas, and cash. It made Field Day 2008 one of the best I have seen. There was a true sprit of teamwork, and we were happy to be there making contacts on the radios.

Then came the call, "Do you think the club would like a 100' tower on a trailer?" After I picked myself up off the floor, Steve KO4QT, Tom N6TNC, and I worked very hard to dot all the I's and cross all the T's. We worked on this for well over eight weeks and tried very hard to keep it on the QT just in case it fell through. Last month we had our first training with the tower, and we are now just about ready for full deployment.

We have some things in the hopper for next year, and I can't wait to see how things work out. It's too soon to talk about them, but I believe, after talking with the members, this is the direction the club wants to move towards.

We have set things in motion to insure that this club keeps down the right path, and I hope that in years to come this club will become more RADIO ACTIVE! I look forward to running for President again and would ask that you re-elect me so that we can continue with what we have begun. It is truly FUN to be part of the ARCEC.

73

Paul Rios, KC6QLS  
President

## Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon

General Membership Meeting  
11 September 2008



The general membership meeting was called to order by the Club President Paul Rios, KC6QLS at 1915 hrs. New members and guests were welcomed to the meeting.

SECRETARY'S minutes as published in the Counterpoise was approved as published. Dan, N6ERD was not present for this meeting so Mike, N6OPH was appointed to act as secretary for this meeting.

TREASURER (Stogie KG6JCW) was not present due to illness, so Mike, N6OPH read the treasurer's report. The report was approved as presented and filed for audit.

Paul, KC6QLS described the new SANDARC exhibit located at the Serra Mesa Library on Aero Drive in San Diego. Paul also mentioned that during the break the membership drive would begin with this meeting. For the Membership Drive, membership renewals would be accepted during the meetings of September, October and November of this year. All memberships are now due on 1 January 2009. Paul also stated that a nominations committee needs to be formed in October to provide candidates for the officers and board members for 2009. Volunteers were solicited from the assembled membership. Eight candidates are required. Only four would be elected to this committee. The highest vote getter would become the chairman. Also, it is time to start thinking about the Ham of the Year candidates as well. Elections will be held during the December annual meeting.

A donation was tendered from the proceeds of the estate sale of Arthur Arroyo, W6HU. It was moved and seconded that the \$100 donation would be used to defray the costs of the advertisement in the "Mother Goose Parade" program book. The motion was approved.

Steve, KO4QT introduced this evening's speaker, John Graf WA6L. His topic was kit building in preparation for the Home Brew contest in November.

The Christmas party will be on 16 December at the Hometown Buffet. The meeting starts at 1900hrs.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Paul talked about the 4 October Open House at Fire Station #6. He will be contact Monica Zeck. We are still working on the EOC for the city of El Cajon.

Repeater can was passed around for the Mother Goose Ad and \$99.46 was collected toward the ad.

PUBLIC SERVICE: Rich, N6NKJ spoke that the fire agencies are having problems due to the lack of a state budget.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: The first month's membership drive netted \$344 with 24 renewals.

SANDARC Report was given by Len K5WFW. The AZ SW Division convention starts on 12 September in Phoenix AZ. The 2009 SW Division Convention is scheduled to be held in Riverside. It was announced that there would be an auction at the residence of Sybil Albright to help liquidate the estate after the passing of her son. The auction will be held on 12 September. Mike, N6OPH stated that SANDARC needs more volunteer examiners. General through Extra class amateurs are invited to participate. The next 2010 convention meeting will be held in October.

EDUCATION: The extra theory class started last Tuesday. Gordon has five students and the course should continue for at least six weeks. The meeting was adjourned at 2112 hrs.

Respectfully Submitted  
Michael P Maston, N6OPH  
Recording Secretary for N6ERD



QLS



## From The Vice President KO4QT Steve



Boy, does John WA6L put on a good program or what? Thanks John for all the time you've put in to the preparation and presentation of programs you've given at the Club meetings this year.

By the time this goes to print, the Fire Station 6 Open House will probably have come and gone. Our plans are to set up an HF station utilizing our new portable tower with a tri-band beam on top. We'll also be handing out our wooden Morse code key blocks to kids that stop by and let them try their hand at Morse code. We'll also give the kids a feel for the microphone by putting them on the air.

Elections are coming up soon. At our October meeting, we'll be electing our nominations committee. The committee we'll elect will be four of the eight who volunteered to be on the committee at our last meeting. During the month of October, members of the nominations committee will be calling you to ask if you're interested in running for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or to be on the Board of Directors. We need all of you to think about the contributions YOU can make to the Club if you were elected as a Club Officer. We also need you to think about running for one of these positions because a Club is only as healthy as its membership makes it!

This said, I'm planning on running for Vice President again this year. As you know, one of the responsibilities of the Vice President is to plan programs for our Club meetings. Whether I'm re-elected or not, your help is needed. What are your interests in Amateur radio and what would you like to see as a program at a Club meeting? You can contact me with your ideas at (619)733-2320 or [ko4qt@hotmail.com](mailto:ko4qt@hotmail.com)

The program at our October meeting will be presented by Marty Woll N6VI, our ARRL Southwestern Division Vice Director and is titled: "Being DX-Tales of a Contest Expeditoner". Marty told me that his presentation takes about an hour and twenty minutes, so, this will be a long meeting. But, from what I hear, worth every minute of it.

73's and see you at the meeting

Steve KO4QT

### WA6BGS Nets

Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Manger
Mike Oberbauer:	KG6TDP	Net Controller
Frito	N6WKB	Wide Open Nets
Axel	KI6RRN	Donut Net

### WAMO NETS:

Wednesday and Saturday Nights  
8:00 pm local time 7:30 "Checkins"

Tuesday Night Rag Chew net:  
8:00 pm

Nets held on club repeaters

WA6BGS Repeaters

RX 147.420 (146.475) 107.2 PL

RX 224.080 – 107.2 PL

RX 445.900 – 107.2 PL

Don't miss it. All members welcome.

### New Donut Net

Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Day: Monday Night  
Mode: FM  
Frequency: Club Repeater System

This is an open net and all are invited. Early check-ins will be taken. Bring your Donuts. GOT MILK?

WAMO means Worked All Members Only. The purpose of WAMO is to encourage people to people communication between club members and to publicize the name of the club among fellow amateurs.

## Calendar of Events October 2008

Oct.	4:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Oct.	4:	Open House Fire Station 6
Oct.	4:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Oct.	7:	Board Meeting, 7:00 pm
Oct.	9:	General Meeting, 7:00 pm
Oct.	18:	Swap Meet, Santee Drive In, 6:30 am
Oct.	18:	T-Hunt, Grossmont College lot, 6:00 pm
Oct.	18:	Counterpoise Dead Line

### Upcoming Event Dates

Nov.	13:	Home Brew Contest
Nov.	23:	Mother Goose Parade
Dec.	11:	ARCEC Elections
Dec.	16:	Christmas Dinner Party

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LAKE SIDE, CA 92040



Tom Mc Duffie KM6K, Manager  
5375 Kearny Villa Road  
San Diego, CA 92123  
(858) 560-4900 or 1-800-854-6046

The Counterpoise is also online in FULL COLOR. Check it out and the club's website at: [www.wa6bgs.org](http://www.wa6bgs.org)

Get your advanced copy by e-mail. I will send it out in .PDF format the night it goes to print. E-mail me and let me know that you would like a copy. Size of file may be up to 1.5 mb at times.

## Change of Address

### Moving?

Do not miss an issue of the Counterpoise. Fill out the Change of address form below.

Call \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO# \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

New Address:

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send to Membership Chairperson:

A.R.C.E.C./ P.O. Box 50, El Cajon, CA 92022

## ARCEC Membership Application

Please print clearly, complete all info and return to Membership Chair with your payment:

( ) Individual Membership \$18.00

( ) Family Membership \$30.00

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class of License: \_\_\_\_\_

Other Family Members and Calls: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Call: \_\_\_\_\_ WAMO #: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ( ) New Member ( ) Renewal

( ) Returning Member

\*If you are a returning member, you will keep your original WAMO #. \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: I want to receive the Counterpoise Newsletter by: ( ) Mail ( ) Email ( ) Website

Check One: I give my permission to publish my info on the Club Roster ( ) Yes ( ) No

If no, state exactly what information you do not want published: \_\_\_\_\_

Check One: ARRL Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

ARES Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

RACES Member ( ) Yes ( ) No

Would you like to be in the Counterpoise Spotlight? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Would you like to be a member of The East County Response Team? ( ) Yes ( ) No

Mail with payment to:

Membership Chair, ARCEC, P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022

### Computer Roster Available

Want the roster sent to you via e-mail? Send an e-mail to Ann Rios KC6TBG, and she will send you the database back as an attachment. She uses Excel, but may be able to convert to various formats if asked. Send your request to 619-593-9445 or KC6TBG@cox.net

# FUN PAGE

## Birthday

October 1	KI6CHY	Norman	Weber
October 2	AI6O	Ed	Felter
October 5	KG6UQA	Lee	Martin
October 12	WB6IMN	Ed	Kennedy
October 12	KE6YPS	Richard	Dickson
October 13	KN6HQFrank	Sheeler	
October 15	W6VJT Pat	Chambers	
October 23	KD6DCO	Doug	Goodman
October 24		Maryetta	Castro
October 26	KH6VO Jim	McManigle	
October 26	KI6DZI Roy	Patterson	
October 29	K6VM Chet	Smith (L)	
October 29	KD6WRO	Peggy	Bostick
October 31	KI6JWB	John	Berry



## Word Search

A C C O M P L I S H E D L W Y T  
C K O W T W K P O W Q W U D Q O  
T W U P U O X C A L F I R E U W  
I Y N L E R W L K R H P A P W E  
V S T T P N D A H Y U F D L T R  
E A E K L T H C R S W R I O Y W  
W N R X W J S O Q D D X O Y P T  
R N P U S F U M U J S Y T M D R  
U E O Y Q H D M P S K P D E O A  
K T I H U L X U W U E H W N O I  
R N S R P K T N T Y L D X T W L  
Y A E U R F D I R E C T I O N E  
L P Y K H O U T U X K S C L E R  
Q U W T N D P Y H L R D O K K L  
H T R A I N I N G F X S M X U Y  
X Y T H L T P X R H L P F Q L S  
H E I L K Y K L Q U Y T X H T K

- |                                       |                                    |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACCOMPLISHED | <input type="checkbox"/> HEIL      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ACTIVE       | <input type="checkbox"/> ICOM      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ANTENNAS     | <input type="checkbox"/> KENWOOD   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CALFIRE      | <input type="checkbox"/> OPENHOUSE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY    | <input type="checkbox"/> RADIO     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> COUNTERPOISE | <input type="checkbox"/> TOWARDS   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEPLOYMENT   | <input type="checkbox"/> TOWER     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DIRECTION    | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAILER   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DONATE       | <input type="checkbox"/> TRAINING  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EOC          | <input type="checkbox"/> YAESU     |

## Brain Thinkers

2= T. the P. A. R.

Times the Postman Always Rings

4= I's in M.

4 I's in Mississippi

18= H. on a G. C.

18 Holes on a Golf Course

----- This Months -----

3= B. M., S.H.T.R.!

5= T. on a F.

11= P. on a F. T.

## Last Months Word Search

L A C I N H C E T G U B W O L G  
W E N T H U S I A S T S R J Q U  
P L A N S O Q W G W O H K W R S  
R E C E I V I E R S G U V I H W  
U C I W R X W X H V W S X N L I  
H T G A S S E M B L I N G K L  
X R U Q I N H T W K T K E E T G  
K O W K S V O E H U R B Z G R S  
Y N R O S G A I A G U W X R W T  
C I S O A W T C T F K Q U A I N  
M C N I H R K O U I H S U T O E  
E W G T C Q X H O U T K K E X N  
U K I R E S U K T G M E I D V O  
Q U S T W R G V U I S X P T Q P  
E H E H O M E B R E W I G M S M  
R Q D K G I V S O R T U Q X O O  
F X I P R O T O T V P E Q L S C



# ASK AN ELMER

The question this month is, "Now that I got the HT, what is the best Mobile Unit for me?" After making some calls and reading the feedback, it's pretty much like finding the right HT. I will say people like their mobile radios. The units in this article are just used as an example. There is no intent for you to go out and purchase the radio. Please do more research and you will find other radios very similar in their features.

To borrow from last month, I will use the 12:00 blinking clocks concept. To start out if you just got your license and you have some 12:00 blinkers in your home and you would like to get on the air with the least effort, it is recommended that you start off with an easy to program dual band unit like the FT-7800. You can easily program it by hand or with the aid of a computer. The cost is a little more then a single band radio, but in the long run, it is worth it. Like some of the other radios out there this one has a detachable face that can be mounted almost anywhere in the vehicle. Personally, all my radios and scanners that are installed in my vehicle have this feature and are used in the installation.

Next, is if you have one or two 12:00 blinkers and you are looking into the future. Digital is just down the road. With its uses of smaller bandwidth and how clear it is, it might be the way we have a conversation over the airwaves in the years to come. The D-Star IC-ID800 dual band radio has many cool features like, GPS port, 9600 bps port, digital voice, display call sign, and that detachable front panel to aid in your installation. With this radio you may look into using a computer to set it up or have someone that has one set it up for you. You will spend some hard cold cash for this unit; it runs over six bills.

Lastly, if you are someone that is looking to upgrade from tech to general and you do not want to just have 2 meters and 70 CM installed, you have not one 12:00 blinker in your home, and you want to work that rare DX for your vehicle, then you should look into a good HF/VHF/UHF transceiver like the FT-857D, IC-706 MII G or the IC-7000. All Three of these units will get you on all the local 2M and 70CM repeaters and when you upgrade you will find out what Amateur Radio is really about, DX! After reading the feedback, this is where people put their money, tuners, good mobile antennas systems and the radio. It was told to me there is nothing like sitting on top of a hill on a summer night overlooking the lights of some town and working the rare DX from some far away country that only has six Amateur Radio Operators on the whole island. The features on these

radio are dual antenna ports, compact design, multimode, low noise floor, Digital Signal Processing "DSP" (option), and 100 watts out put on HF. The cost on the three units new runs about seven to thirteen bills. Shop around and you may find a great deal.

Ok, it's your call. Where do you fit in? Please let me know if this helps you or if you have more questions. Next months question, "HF/VHF/UHF - Help Me - what antenna is best suited for me?"

73

Elmer A. Ham

Please submit your thoughts to [WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net](mailto:WA6BGScouterpoise@cox.net) and the Elmers will answer with your feedback. Also, please send in any question that you might have.

## Information and Resources:

HRO "The Candy Store" <http://www.hamradio.com/>

QRZ <http://www.qrz.com/site.html>

D-Star <http://www.icomamerica.com/en/products/amateur/dstar/id1/default.aspx>

Icom <http://www.icomamerica.com/en/amateur/default.aspx>

Yaesu <http://www.yaesu.com/>

*Options: Can be very expensive but are fun to have! Get them before you can't find them or they are discontinued.*



YAESU FT-7800



YAESU FT-857D

**The Editor's  
Corner  
KC6QLS Paul**



**Editor's Corner**

As editor I would like to thank everyone that helps with the Counterpoise. We have column writers that keep us informed and on our toes on what they will write about next. When the Counterpoise is all done and the dust has settled, I can sit down and really read it as a reader not as an editor looking for format, grammar, spelling and the flow from page to page.

Ask an Elmer has been getting some good feedback. New Members like the format and find it very informative. So please continue sending in your feed back to the question of the month. I think this column will have a good run. If you have an idea for a column, please let me know, and I'll see how we can fit it in.

Paul, KC6QLS

**Public Relations**

SANDARC had one heck of a display at the Serra Mesa-Kearny Mesa Branch Library located at 9005 Aero Drive. Four displays were filled with Amateur Radio information. I think we will see about taking it on the road and see if El Cajon and/or Santee branches would like to display it too.

Next is Fire Station 6 Open House the first Saturday of this month. This will be the first deployment of the Communications Tower. We will be right next to the CAL Fire booth, and we will have wooden CW keys for all the kids to make. We will even put them on the radio too. Hope you can come by and help out or just say "HI".

Paul, KC6QLS

# Volunteers Needed

## Up Coming Events

Fire Station #6 Open House "ARCEC Booth"  
Tower Teams Needed!

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## E-Mail

Address for the Counterpose. Please submit all *Counterpoise* Mail to:

**WA6BGScounterpoise@cox.net**

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## Prize Table Needs Help

Thank you for your contributions to the Prize Table! We still need your Support and Help or it may just end up a thing of the past. Please contact: Floyd Lang AF6BC at 303-6711.

---

## *Things to keep in mind*

*Get on the El Cajon ARC Reflector*

*To sign up visit:*

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/elcajonarc/>

You will get the latest news about The Club and things going on in the Ham world.

---

## *Quote of the Month*

"And keeps the palace of the soul."

- Of Tea

For Amateur Radio Public Relations San Diego  
Please visit  
[www.arprsd.org](http://www.arprsd.org)

## JOKE

How do you make an egg laugh?  
Crack a YOLK.

Lisie KI6EEK



# Crest Radio Museum

Pat Bunsold, WA6MHZ



A CB Set in the Crest Radio Museum

At the TRW Swapmeet last month, I picked up a wealth of radios, some incredible treasures (Pic1) and finds. Among them were a Hammarlund HQ-170, a National HRO-50T with the coil sets, a Hallicrafters SX-110 and an ARC-5 for the Broadcast band along with a dual receiver rack.

A Homebrew receiver was in the haul as well as this Siltronix 1011C. This really filled the Town Car, and it's a good thing the WIFE didn't see these, she would have had KITTENS!! I stashed them all here at work, and blended them into the pile. Once again, it's a case of where I could hide an elephant in here, there is so much junk! The following Saturday after the swapmeet, I restored the SX-110, not too tough a job, and it works perfectly. I did repaint the cabinet and did a lousy job, but it looks better than it did. One needs to be PATIENT until the paint is dry before messing with it!! Things got worse and worse; now we are at the point where it needs to be sanded down to the metal and try again! But, it looks OK for sitting on the shelf. I didn't touch the big heavy rigs. They will sit there along time before I get around to them. And so one item deserved some attention, and that was the 1011C

Back in the early 70s, Swan made the Swan 1011 for a short time, and received a great outcry from Hams around the world that they would make a CB masquerading as a 10 meter radio. Not just a QRO CB, but a CB that would put out a hundred watts! It had many of the same features the big Ham Radio sets offer, and has to be tuned up the same way. It has a Carrier balance control, RF gain, and tunes like a real Ham Set! And, as a plus, it has the 28.5 to 29 Mhz 10 meter band, as it is "wink wink!" supposed to be sold to Hams who also want to just SWL on the CB band. Transmit is disabled but by adding a simple wire to the bandswitch, all the joys of QRO Power on CB are possible.

The Hams were outraged!! SWAN, one of the Crown Jewels of the Ham industry, producing a bogus CB rig that sure put out a lot more than 5 watts!! I can just see all them picketing in front of the Airport road plant in Oceanside. SO Swan quickly spun off a side company called SILTRONIX, just to make CBs. They made VFOs for legal crystal bound sets, and other items that the FCC and Hams just spit on the ground about. "THAT'S ILLEGAL!!!!" the Hams cried. But Siltronix filpped them

off and made millions of these, and they Sold like hotcakes! Nowadays, the radio would never pass type acceptance, but things were more lax back then, and companies could "get away" with more. I wonder how many Siltronix radios were Sledge-hammered by the FCC in all their raids on outlaw CB Shops!

What is surprising is that the radio does not cover the segment between CB and 10 meters, or the 28.0 to 28.5 section of 10 meters. Of course, there are "mods" that can be done to do so, but that portion of 10 meter is especially important to new Hams, who have Tech licenses and want to DX on 10 with a Real Radio! To get it to that band, something has to be sacrificed, and I would sacrifice the CB band. Make the CB portion 28.0 to 28.5, but then there would be no dial calibration. Also not a problem, there is an aftermarket Digital readout that takes the VFO output and displays the corrected radio frequency. I nailed one of those off of Ebay and will make the necessary mod. Then this will be a respectable 10 meter ONLY radio! But one tweak of a variable cap and it can be put back on CB or the "Freeband" we hear so much anger about. The rig is rated at 300W input, not bad power to work DX on 10 with!

When brought the radio home from TRW, it was just in dreadful shape. Coated in smoke residue (someone must have gone through millions of cigarettes with this rig), and inside was filled with mouse hair and droppings. YEECH!!!! NO WONDER the seller was thrilled to get TWENTY DOLLARS for it. But I was more thrilled to get it for \$20, as I have been outbid on Ebay for 10 times that!! It took several days of cleaning and detailing the knobs to get it to look acceptable again. I touched up the paint on the front panel and repainted the cabinet. A couple knobs missing were added; someday I need to find the proper ones. But for a \$20 rig, who cares? Now if we could ONLY get some Sunspots to make this rig useable!



Continued on Page 12

# *Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul*

## **"Let's Meet at Hiram's Café"**

*Turmoil and change have shaken the ranks of our hobby in recent years. Controversy over incentive licensing, the role of the code, and concern over the dwindling ranks of our hobby have caused angst and sown the seeds of division among hams, young and old. Now, with the spring of renewal in Cycle 24 upon us, it is time for a healing catharsis for our hobby, with "Chicken Noodle Soup for the Ham Radio Operator's Soul".*

**T**oday, the pace of change today is unrelenting throughout the US economy, affecting all sectors of economic activity, including Amateur Radio. Enterprises involved in Amateur electronics development, manufacturing and marketing are being forced to evolve or perish. This pace of change has touched even a staid Newington, Connecticut institution known to generations of US Radio Amateurs – the National Association for Amateur Radio, or ARRL, formerly known as the American Radio Relay League.

In an announcement at ARRL headquarters in Newington, Connecticut, League spokesperson Terry Jennings-Hargsgood-Bergroyn-Hasselflat announced the latest League business initiative to members of the assembled press. "For many years, the ARRL has had this 'Ham Radio' thing going. It's something that frankly, we have struggled with for decades. The connection with 'Ham' and the struggle to have a clear image in the public's mind that we are not involved in the production of pork or anything to do with nutrition". It appears the ARRL Board of Directors has finally decided that if they can't beat 'em, they'll join them. Today, the ARRL Board of Directors has announced that the League will be partnering with well-known US pork producer Farmer John Enterprises, marketer of the well-known consumer brand 'Farmer John'

table at the meats". The partnership will see the ARRL, a 501(c) 3 corporation, re-organized to enter the restaurant business. Deciding the "Ham" moniker is an underutilized asset, the board has decided to turn a lemon into lemonade and modify the ARRL business model.

During the press conference, ARRL President Dr. J. Hammond Swiss W3HOS provided additional comment on the announced merger. "The joint venture with *Farmer John* is really a natural for the League. When we considered that our 33-member Board of Directors travels to Newington on a quarterly basis, they could easily set aside one half day, each quarter, to peel potatoes or chop onions during Board meetings. It's not like they were doing anything important anyway". Smith explains how technology added an unexpected advantage in considering the new business initiative. "ARRL headquarters staff can do double duty, utilizing cellular telephones to answer incoming calls while waiting tables and bussing dishes. We calculate tips alone represent a significant source of non-membership dues revenue to the League. The numbers are impressive. And, the spacious, well-appointed League offices in Newington make the perfect setting for a restaurant."

Named "*Hiram's Café*", the ARRL restaurant prototype is named after League founder Hiram Percy Maxim, who coincidentally had a sweet tooth for baked treats. "*Hiram's Café*" will be a showcase for high-end pastries and other baked delights, long a favorite with an aging Ham population. The agreement with Farmer John Enterprises allows the League to eventually open as many as 250 of the restaurants, coast to coast. "We will have a yet



Continued on Page 11

## Chicken Noodle Soup Continued

to be announced, big-name chef associated with our restaurant chain. This, combined with the financial resources of Farmer John Enterprises will insure a steady pace of openings for our new properties”.

The fit with ARRL had other advantages, according to Swiss. “Leveraging existing relationships was an important dimension of the League ‘enterprise’ and also attractive to Farmer John. We are aware of the bratwurst consumption figures from past Dayton Hamvention® events. When Farmer John Enterprises examined the data, they realized ARRL members were among the biggest consumers of their bratwurst division products”.

The ARRL Board gathered at the Newington restaurant prototype for the press conference. In addition to the ARRL board, Hams from the Newington community and visitors to League headquarters were invited to the conference and were seated around a spacious prototype restaurant. The Ham Radio theme was unmistakable with handheld VHF/UHF radios in plain sight everywhere. In the background, various well-known League staffers could be seen, including ARRL Technical Director Dr. Ed “Bugs” Bunny WH2ARE, who was busy taking orders and pouring coffee.

Murmurs of conversation could be heard from seated board members. Suddenly, ARRL staff appeared with a monster, 3 pound breakfast burrito, which was served to League President Swiss. Gingerly picking up the burrito, a smiling Swiss looks toward the cameras and remarks in his best Newington accent, “*Watch me as I polish off this bad boy*”. A smiling group of board members looked on approvingly.

**Editor’s note:** “*Slinging Hash and Earning Cash*” is the new mantra at ARRL. “*Chicken Noodle Soup*” readers are urged to stay tuned for future developments with “*Hiram’s Café*”.

Morris AZ6CW





## Amateur Radio At Large

From Rich N6NKJ



Hello again,

What a great turn out we had for the September meeting. John, WA6L, as usual, presented a very informative program on kit building 101. May be I will try and build the Ameco code practice oscillator and monitor kit I bought a year ago. Remember, I said may be.

This month those of us who are on the nominating committee will be calling all of our members to ask them to run for one or more club offices. Please remember, **THIS IS YOUR CLUB!** So please, when we call you, think about giving something back to **YOUR CLUB**. In the past, we have had a big problem in filling the different offices, especially the Board of Director's positions. Some of the other offices we have had a problem filling are the Treasurer's office and the club Secretary's office.

According to several people I have heard on the club repeater, the extra class is going very well, and soon we should have some more extra class operators in our ranks.

On Monday Sept. 15th, Axel, KI6RRN, held his first *Donut Net*, and he had 27 check-ins for the first net; not bad. I hope more of our club members will support Axel's *Donut Net* on Monday nights at 1900 local time.

Our Christmas dinner will be December 16th at the El Cajon Hometown Buffet. Hometown Buffet is on Main and Van Houten in El Cajon. Paul, KC6QLS, said that we will start at 6pm for dinner, then the business part starts at 7pm. Last year 65 people attended, so let's break that record.

On October 4th, the El Cajon Fire Department will have its annual Open House, and your club once again will be part of this great event. We will be joined by Roxanne Provaznik from CAL FIRE. We will also have our new Communication Trailer to show off. We still need more people to help out at this event, so come out and join us.

As you know, Ann KC6TBG, our Membership Chair, is running a membership drive which started September 1st and will end on December 1st. At the end of the drive, and at the Christmas Party, one special ticket will be drawn, and the winner will receive a prize. So see Ann at the next meeting and pay your dues, or send in your check so you do not miss out on the drawing.

On Monday the 22nd, autumn starts, and so does the Santa Ana winds season. As you know, the last two brush fires started during the high winds. Roxanne has said that if we do get the high winds, there is a good chance she will be calling on us to go out on patrol. And that is why it is so vital that I have a list of retired people who can be ready to go out on these patrols if they are on weekdays. There are ten routes that we need covered in the East County, and four in the North County, so that means we need 28 operators to go out and patrol the backcountry, plus two net control operators at Monte Vista and one for the North County group. **PLEASE!** if you are available during the week, let me know, and I can assure you, you will be put to work.

That is all for now. As always, please remember our brave men and women who keep us safe and free and those who at this very moment are in harms way.  
God Bless the U.S.A.

Rich, N6NKJ

## CREST continued



73

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Pat Bunsold WA6MHZ  
Curator  
Crest Radio Museum



# Membership Report

Ann KC6TBG



## Welcome New Members:

Axel Bruderer	KI6RRN	WAMO #1765
David Hendrick	K6JHD	WAMO #1766
Joe McGerald	KI6SYO	WAMO #1767
Ruth Pattin	No Call	WAMO #1768

## Welcome Returning Members:

Richard Bolter	N6IJK	WAMO # 0525
Phil Pedigo	N6WH6	WAMO #0785

The following badges are ready for pick up at the Next Meeting:

N6FRX	KF6AHX	KI6KTZ	KI6SYO
N6VOC	KG6NDS	KI6RRN	N6MYG
KG6HBX	N6IJK	KI6NHK	KI6UYA
K6JHD			

## ARCEC 2009 Membership Drive

*September 1, 2008 to December 1, 2008*

Our 2009 Membership Drive has started and we had 24 renewals at our September Meeting. Dues may be paid at the October and November meeting or by mail. In order to be eligible to enter the membership drawing to be held at the Christmas Party, your individual and/or family membership dues for the year 2009 must be received and/or post marked on or before December 1, 2008 and dues for 2008 must be paid by current members. You will receive one ticket from the membership chair at the meeting when you pay your 2009 membership dues or at the Christmas Party if you pay by mail. Only one ticket will be given per individual and/or family membership. Even if you renew your 2008 membership when you pay your 2009 membership dues, you will only receive one ticket for the 2009 membership drawing. Please see the ARCEC website for more details on the 2009 Membership Drive. The drawing prize as well as the 2009 Budget will be based on the dues collected during this drive, so please renew early!

73, Ann, KC6TBG

For new members who join during the year, the dues for the year they join will be prorated through December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they join, and the next years dues will be due on December 31<sup>st</sup> of the year they join. The Dues Payment Schedule will be as follows:

## Individual Dues Membership:

**\$18.00 per year (\$1.50 per month):**

January	\$ 18.00	July	\$ 9.00
February	\$ 16.50	August	\$ 7.50
March	\$ 15.00	September	\$ 6.00
April	\$ 13.50	October	\$ 4.50
May	\$ 12.00	November	\$ 3.00
June	\$ 10.50	December	\$ 1.50 *

**\*plus \$18.00 for the following year**

## Family Dues Membership:

**\$30.00 per year (\$2.50 per month):**

January	\$ 30.00	July	\$ 15.00
February	\$ 27.50	August	\$ 12.50
March	\$ 25.00	September	\$10.00
April	\$ 22.50	October	\$ 7.50
May	\$ 20.00	November	\$ 5.00
June	\$ 17.50	December	\$ 2.50 *

**\*plus \$30.00 for the following year**

Ann, KC6TBG  
Membership Chair

## *Please Note:*

*The Club Roaster will be made available Febuary 1, 2009. Anyone that wishes their information not to be published, please contact Ann ASAP at [KC6TBG@cox.net](mailto:KC6TBG@cox.net)*



**J. P. TURNER & COMPANY, L.L.C.**

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San Jose CA 92071  
Office: (619) 561-2839  
Fax: (619) 631-0611

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Branch Manager

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[www.patrickchambers.com](http://www.patrickchambers.com)

## ARCEC Photos





## Tower Training

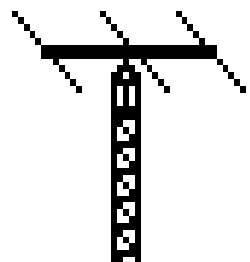


## Home Brew Rules

**ATTENTION: REVISED HOME BREW RULES FOR NOVEMBER 2008 CONTEST**

1. All home brew projects must be original works.
2. The Home Brew Contest will consist of four categories: Novice, Advanced, Antenna and Kit.
3. Once an item is submitted in a Home Brew Contest, it may not be re-entered in any other category or in any subsequent year.
4. Novice class would be reserved for beginners who are constructing their first project.
5. Advanced class would be for those who are experienced in the art of home brewing. It would be as complex as practicable.
6. The antenna class would consist of a transmitting antenna for any amateur frequency.
7. The kit class would be a ready made kit and will be judged based on assembly, soldering, and over all kit building ability.
8. All home brew projects must be explained by the builder and demonstrated before the general membership. All projects must function as described.
9. Each Home Brew Class will consist of first, second and third places. The winner of each class would be awarded an appropriate plaque.
10. The judging would be accomplished by three volunteers selected by the club president. Any licensed amateur radio operator and club member is illegible to be a judge. The decision of the judges is final. No sour grapes please.
11. The purpose of the Home Brew Contest is to demonstrate just one of the many capabilities of the amateur radio community.

**Build and have Fun!!**



Amateur Radio Club of El Cajon  
P.O. Box 50  
El Cajon, CA 92022



Issue Date 10/2008

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### Is your membership ready to expire?

Membership Drive continues in October!  
Early Bird Prize at the Christmas Dinner Party.  
Present Member dues must be paid up before 2009  
dues are paid. See Memberhip Report for details.

## For Ham Radio Classes EXTRA!!

Please Contact:  
**Mike Maston**  
**N6OPH**  
**(619) 296-9067**

Please Visit Our Website at  
[www.WA6BGS.org](http://www.WA6BGS.org)



### VEC Testing Sites

1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday:	El Cajon 10:00 am First Lutheran Church of EC 867 South Lincoln Ave.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday:	Carlsbad 9:30 am Carlsbad Safety Center Orion Way Carlsbad
3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday:	North Park 10:00 am North Park Recreation Center 4044 Idaho Street San Diego
4 <sup>th</sup> Saturday:	Chula Vista 8:30 am Fire Station #7 1640 Santa Venetia Chula Vista
5 <sup>th</sup> or last Saturday:	Escondido 9:00 am LDS Church 1917 East Washington St.

To make advance reservations or to find out more info  
from the site captain, please call 465-EXAM (3926)